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Section V

15(V)

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INTERROGATION OF GUSTAV SCHADE OF OKM 4

SKL III AND OF THE REICHSPOST AND REICHSRUNDFUNK

The attached report on the interrogation of SCHADE has been received from Director, A.S.A. Europe, under reference ASA-91/EFC/cwh (Main) APO 757 of 18th February, 1946.

With reference to paragraph 3a, "Munchen" (braun and rot) is Naval Code, "Koln" is Naval Cypher, and "Frankfurt" Naval Cypher No. 3 (Combined Anglo-US).

TICOM

1st March, 1946.

No. of pages: 4

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UNITED STATES FORCES
EUROPEAN THEATER
HEADQUARTERS, ARMY SECURITY AGENCY
EUROPE

T O P S E C R E T

28th January, 1946.

INTERROGATION OF GUSTAV SCHADE

Place: CIE 13, Plattling (near Deggendorf)

Interrogator: 1st. Lt. Alfred P. Fehl, Sig. C., AUS.

1. Personal Data:

Schade was born 26th October, 1904 in Berlin. He was arrested by CIC in September 1945 in Landshut, Bavaria where he had been working for the Military Government since the end of the European War. He speaks Czec, English, and Dutch fluently and has some knowledge of Hungarian, French, Spanish, and Swedish. His present home address is Landshut, Bavaria (Brühfeldweg 251 1/5).

2. History of Activities:

a. 1924-1942:

During this period, Schade was with the Salvation Army and travelled in that capacity to England, Australia, New Zealand, Panama, Hungary, Czecoslovakia and Sweden. As an Adjutant, he accompanied General Evangeline Booth through Germany and Sweden and acted as interpreter for her. He was rejected for military service in the earlier days of the war and had therefore continued his work as a Salvation Army Officer until 1942.

b. 1942:

When with the Salvation Army in Prague, he was drafted by the German Civil Service and acted as a verkaufsbeamter and translator in a petroleum concern there .

c. 1942-1943:

He was sent to Berlin where he was employed as a civilian with the Marineamt/SKL/Chef des Marinenachrichtendienstes III.

d. 1943-1944:

He did not like the work in SKL III and was transferred to the Reichspostzentralamt, Forschungstelle Langeveld in Eindhoven, Holland. There he had a quarrel with his superior Oberpostrat Kurt Vetterlein and was returned to Berlin. Almost immediately he was again transferred to the Reichsrundfunk at The Hague where he became Stellvertretender Aussenstellenleiter of the Deutsche Europa Sender of Holland.

e. 1944-1945.

Schade was again transferred to Berlin by the Deutsche Europa Sender. Here he served as Leiter von Dienst of Lande Gruppe England, later changed to Lande Gruppe Nordwest. He was in the process of being transferred to Vienna and got no further than Landshut when the war ended.

3. Nature of Schade's Work with SKL III, Reichspost, and Rundfunk:

a. SKL III:

From 1st July 1942 to 31st March 1943, Schade was employed as a civilian book-breaker with Marineamt/SKL/Chef des Marinenachrichtendienstes III. He worked in the section which was trying to break the München braun code, which he believed was English although he thought that there might be a possibility of the Americans having also used it. Before the change of the system, the intelligence was chiefly concerned with convoys to and from Freetown.

His description of the breaking was rather vague. The method consisted, in general, of testing for either a subtractor or an adder and trying to verify the results by the British and American groups which they had on hand. The traffic was in figures and in groups of five. They assumed that the first two groups contained the address and the third (which he mentioned as the first of the text) referred to the name of the sender.

The cover names for other systems which were being worked on were München rot, Frankfurt, and Köln. There were about one hundred people employed in all. R.R. Tranow was the head of the section in which Schade worked.

b. Forschungsstelle Langeveld, Eindhoven, Holland.

Schade's work here dealt with scrambled radio-telephone conversations intercepted from links between the United States and Great Britain. The conversations had been previously recorded on Magnetophone and he and four others who knew English wrote them down in the original and had them sent to Berlin by Teletype. He did not seem to know about the de-scrambling process which preceded the Magnetophone recordings (see I-88). Schade believes that the conversations involved government officials although no names were ever mentioned. He recalls hearing about a message which was supposed to have passed between Mr. Churchill and his wife.

The contents of these messages were so sketchy and vague that it was almost impossible to make sense from them. Examples of the conversations were: "the party is leaving here" or "has arrived there", "letters and documents were received", or "everything at home is well". It was sometimes possible to recognize people by their voices, although Schade himself did not stay in this field long enough to do so.

c. Deutsche Europa Sender, Holland.

Schade was anxious to point out that he was not one of the high Rundfunk officials. He was a Stellvertreter to the Aussenstellenleiter of the Deutsche Europa Sender of Holland, Dr. Schaeffer (See Appendix). His position called for knowledge of Dutch, for he supervised the translation of English broadcasts into Dutch which were in turn given to Dr. Schaeffer for vetting and rebroadcast to the Netherlands. EMPAX (English Press Attachée) reports however, were not given to Dr. Schaeffer, but were sent directly to the Propaganda Ministry, Berlin, in the original. Schade also supervised this and assisted whereever he could in clearing up controversial points in faulty interception.

d. Deutsche Europa Sender, Landegruppe England.

Schade's position here as Leiter von Dienst was much more administrative than his previous one. He was responsible for the efficiency and correctness with which programmes were conducted, a sort of stage manager for the show. He was quick to add, however, that responsibility for the kind of programmes broadcast was not his.

APPENDIX

According to Schade, the organization of Reichsrundfunk was as follows:

1. Verwaltung
2. Technik
3. Ausslandsdirektion
   a. Europa Sender
      (This was divided into agencies with one for each country or group of countries).
   b. Orientzone
   c. Amerikazone
4. Deutschekurzwellensender
5. Deutschefernsehsender.